· 88- 0999X

February 29, 1988

OCA FILE THE OHC / Rep Hamilton

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of February 26 requesting information about remarks made by the President at his February 24 press conference regarding the situation in Israel, particularly with respect to the continuing violence in the West Bank and Gaza.

We appreciate being advised of your interest in this matter. In an effort to be of assistance, we have forwarded your letter to the appropriate Administration officials for their careful review. You will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Alan M. Kranowitz Assistant to the President

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

AMK:KRJ:JWR:jwr

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat -- for DIRECT

cc: w/copy of inc to David Gries, Legislative Affairs, CIA --

fyi

Declassified and Approved For Release 2012/11/05 : CIA-RDP90M00005R001100060007-2 ,

CLE H MAMILTON, INDIANA
GUS YATRON, PRIMBETLYANIA
STEPHEN J SOLARZ, NEW YORE
DON BONKER, WASHINGTON
GERRY E STUDDS, MASSACHUSETTS
DAN MICA, FLORIDA
HOWARD WOLFE, MICHIGAN
GEO W CROCKETT, JR., MICHIGAN
SAM GEJDENSON, CONNECTICUT
MERVYN M DYMALLY, CALFORNIA
TOM LANTOS, CALFORNIA
PETER H, ROSTMAYER, PENNEYLYANIA
ROBERT G, TORRICELLI, NEW JERSEY
LAWYENCE J SMITH, FLORIDA
HOWARD L BERMAN, CALFORNIA
MEL LEVINE, CALFORNIA
EL LEVINE, CALFORNIA
EL LEVINE, CALFORNIA
EL LEVINE, CALFORNIA
CHESTER G ATKINS, MASSACHUSETTS
JAMES MCCLURE CLARKE, NONTH CAROLINA
JAMES B FUSTER, PUESTO RICO
JAMES M, BILBRAY, NEYADA
WAYNE OWENS, UTAN
FOOL IS SUNIA, AMERICAN SAMOA

JOHN J. BRADY, JR. CHIEF OF STAFF One Kundredth Congress

Congress of the United States Committee on Foreign Affairs

Nouse of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

WILLIAM S BROOMFIELD, MICK, BERLAMIN A GILMAN NEW YORK BOBERT J LAGOMARSINO, CALMON JIM LEACH, HOW WISCONSIN OLYMPIA J SNOWE, MAINE HENRY J MYDE, ILLIMOIS GERALD B.M. SOLOMON, NEW YORK GERALD B.M. SOLOMON, NEW YORK POBERT K DORNAN, CALMONIAL CHRISTOPHER H, SMITH, NEW JERSEY CONNIE MACK, FLORIDA MICHAEL DEVINE, ONIO DAN BURTON, INDIANA JAM MEYERS, KANSAS JOHN MILLER, WASHINGTON, DONALD E "BUZ" LUKENS, ONIO DONALD E "BUZ" LUKENS, ONIO BORN BLEER, GUAMING

STEVEN K. BERRY MINORITY CHIEF OF STAFF

February 26, 1988

VK

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In your press conference on February 24th, you stated in reply to two questions regarding the violence in the West Bank and Gaza that "...there's every evidence that these riots are not just spontaneous and home-grown" and later you said that "we have had intimations that there have been certain people suspected of being terrorists, outsiders coming in not only with weapons but stirring up and encouraging the trouble in those areas."

In hearings and briefings before the Congress, officials of your administration have on numerous occasions since December insisted that the demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza were spontaneous and not provoked from the outside, although people from the outside have subsequently tried to use them for their own purposes.

I would like to know the evidence for the statements you made at the press conference including the statement that weapons are being brought into the territories. I do not recall reports of Palestinians using imported weapons against the Israelis during these demonstrations.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this matter and believe that it is in the national interest for these discrepancies to be resolved quickly and publicly.

With best regards.

Lee H. Hamilton Chairman, Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East

yours,